

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03

CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-15 /075 R

DRAFTED BY IO/EX:SCUMMINS/ISLIPPE:JU

APPROVED BY IO:WBBUFFUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 040922

UNESCO

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: AORG, UNESCO

SUBJECT: UK QUERY ON TIMING OF PAYMENT OF UNESCO

ASSESSMENTS

REF: PARIS 4913

1. DEPT BELIEVES THAT DISCUSSION PROPOSED BY UK FOR MARCH 4 UNESCO GG MEETING WILL INEVITABLY TURN TO U. S. DEFERMENT PART OF ITS ASSESSMENT DUE TO U. S. DISSATISFACTION WITH THE HANDLING OF THE SOVIET ARREARAGES. PERMREP SHOULD TAKE OCCASION TO EMPHASIZE THAT U. S. WILL NOT TAKE THIS LYING DOWN. SUGGESTIONS BY THE GG PARTICIPANTS ON MOST EFFECTIVE WAY OF DEALING WITH THIS PROBLEM SHOULD BE SOUGHT AT THIS SESSION. WE TAKE THE VIEW THAT IF THE 1972 GENERAL CONFERENCE DECIDED THAT THE THREE SOVIET GOVERNMENTS WERE OVER ASSESSED BETWEEN 1961-1971 SO MUST HAVE BEEN EVERY OTHER MEMBER INCLUDING THE U. S. THE GRAVE VIEW OF THIS SITUATION TAKEN BY THE U. S. SHOULD BE STRONGLY INDICATED. (FYI. WE BELIEVE THAT DURING DEBATE ON THIS PROBLEM AT 1972 GENERAL CONFERENCE

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U. K. POSITION PARALLELED THAT OF U.S. WOULD APPRECIATE

PERMREP CHECKING THIS POINT, END FYI.)

2. WITH REGARD TO REFTTEL, THE SITUATION IS THUS COMPLICATED BY THE ABOVE-DESCRIBED PROBLEM. THERE IS LITTLE OR NO CHANCE OF THE U. S. BEING RESPONSIVE TO A

U. K. OR ANY OTHER INITIATIVE TO CHANGE ITS CURRENT PAYMENT SCHEDULE OF APPROXIMATELY 1/2 IN JULY, 1/4 IN SEPT. OR OCT. AND THE REMAINDER IN NOV. OR DEC. THIS SEQUENCE IS GROUND INTO OUR LEGISLATIVE (APPROPRIATIONS) AND BUDGET AND ACCOUNTING (APPORTIONMENT, TIMING OF PAYMENTS) PROCEDURES. WHILE U. S. IS ALWAYS WILLING TO CONSIDER ACCELERATION OF THE FINAL PAYMENT IN EMERGENCY, THIS COULD ONLY BE DONE IN THAT EVENT AND NOT ADOPTED AS A CONTINUING ADVANCE COMMITMENT.

3. U. S. DOES NOT CONSIDER THE LATE PAYMENT FACTOR AS IMPORTANT AS THE FAILURE OF SOME GOVERNMENTS TO PAY WITHIN THE YEAR OF ASSESSMENT BECAUSE OF THE EFFECT ON THE ABILITY OF THE WORKING CAPITAL FUND TO MEET THE CASH NEEDS OF THE ORGANIZATION PENDING THE RECEIPT OF CONTRIBUTIONS.

4. NORMAL U. S. PAYMENT SCHEDULE IS NOT DESIGNED WITH UNESCO SPECIFICALLY IN MIND BUT IS TRUE OF ALL UN SYSTEM ORGANIZATIONS EXCEPT ONE WHICH MAINTAINS THE CALENDAR YEAR AS ITS FISCAL PERIOD. CASEY

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